18th August 1956]

Sri T. C. NARAYANAN NAMBIAR: May I know whether tin-making industry is also included among the small-scale industries which are included in the industrial estate schemes in Palghat? May I also know whether the Government have received any special representation from one Mr. Haneefa, Municipal Councillor, Palghat Municipality, in that connexion?

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: I may tell the hon. Member that there will be no difficulty in getting the tin-making industry covered under the industrial estate schemes in Palghat.

Exploratory work re artesian springs

* 137 Q.—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Agriculture be pleased to state whether any exploratory work has been conducted during the year 1956 to locate artesian springs in the districts? 9–50 a.m.

The Hon. Sri M. BHAKTAVATSALAM: No, Sir.

Conditions of sweet toddy-tappers

* 138 Q.—Sri N. K. PALANISAMY: Will the Hon. the Minister for Religious Endowments and Transport be pleased to state the steps proposed to be taken by the Government to improve the conditions of sweet-toddy tappers under the Second Five-Year Plan?

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN: Under the Second Five-Year Plan, the following steps are proposed to be taken for improving the conditions of ex-toddy tappers in the State under the Palm Gur Development Scheme:—

(a) Increasing production of palm gur.

(b) Adoption of improved methods of manufacture of palm jaggery by supply of palm gur sets.

(c) Granting subsidies to the neera parlours.

(d) Encouraging the production of palatable products by giving subsidies to deserving societies for the purchase of confectionery equipment.

(e) Undertaking propaganda for the development of Palm Gur Industry by supply of the journal "Tad Gud Samachar" at half cost.

(f) Encouraging other allied industries among the ex-tapper.

Sri N. K. PALANISAMY: Sir, since jaggery is sold in the market at a very low price; all these measures will not help the tappers. Will the Government consider other alternative methods, such as distributing land to the tappers.

The Hon. Sri B. PARAMESWARAN: Sir, that is a common policy pursued by the Government in respect of those people who are in need of land, but this is a separate question altogether.